

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 SAM-01 SCCT-02 A-01 M-02 OPR-02 SY-04

USSS-00 FBIE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01

/131 W

----- 037043

R 161615Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9979

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS MADRID 5791

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJ: SEPT 13 BOMB EXPLOSION

REF: A. MADRID 5764 B. MADRID 5766

1. OFFICIAL TOLL FOR SEPT 13 BOMB EXPLOSION (REF A) INSIDE ROLANDO CAFETERIA LOCATED NEXT DOOR TO DGS HQS IN DOWNTOWN PUERTA DEL SO, NOW STANDS AT 11 DEAD AND 71 INJURED, SEVERAL SERIOUSLY.

2. AMONG THE DEAD WERE TWO WAITERS AT THE CAFETERIA, WHICH WAS CROWDED WITH LUNCHTIME CUSTOMERS, TWO MARRIED COUPLES ONE OF WHICH WAS ON THEIR HONEYMOON, TWO OTHER MEN AND THREE ADDITIONAL WOMEN. ONE OF THE DEAD WOMEN WAS A 62 YEAR OLD EMPLOYEE OF THE DGS. DESPITE THE FACT CAFETERIA IS FREQUENTED BY POLICEMEN FROM THE DGS NEXT DOOR, NO POLICEMEN WERE AMONG DEAD VICTIMS, ALTHOUGH A HALF DOZEN POLICEMAN WERE AMONG THE INJURED, SOME OF THEM SERIOUSLY.

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3. POLICE HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEIR INVESTIGATION OF BOMBING HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT IT WAS PLANNED AND EXECUTED BY BASQUE TERRORIST ETA. THEY HAVE FURTHER ANNOUNCED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR A 27-YEAR OLD BASQUE FROM GUIPUZOCA, JUAN MANUEL GALARRAGA MENDIZABAL, AND HAVE OFFERED A ONE MILLION PESETAS (APPROXIMATELY \$15,000) REWARD TO ANYONE WHO CAN PROVIDE INFORMATION LEADING TO HIS CAPTURE.

4. ON SEPT 14, THE FUNERAL OF MISS CONCEPCION PEREZ PAINO, THE 62-YEAR OLD WOMAN EMPLOYEE OF DGS, WAS HELD IN DOWNTOWN MADRID. PRIME MINISTER ARIAS AND SEVERAL CABINET MINISTERS ATTENDED THE FUNERAL, AND PARTICIPATED WITH A LARGE, WELL-ORDERED, AND SOLEMN CROWD IN THE FUNERAL PROCESSION. A POSTHOMOUS DECORATION WAS ALSO AWARDED TO THE DECEASED.

5. AMID SOME INITIAL FEARS THAT THIS TRAGIC BOMBING EPISODE MIGHT ADVERSELY EFFECT THE ARIAS GOVT'S MODERATE LIBERALIZATION PROGRAM, WHICH HAD BEEN STRONGLY REAFFIRMED BY ARIAS IN AN INTERVIEW ON SEPT 11 (REF B), MINISTER OF INFORMATION CABANILLAS, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF GOVT IN PRESS CONFERENCE ON EVENING OF SEPT 13, STATED THAT THIS VILE CRIME WOULD NOT ALTER THE POLICY OF LIBERALIZATION OF THE GOVT.

6. REACTION TOWARDS THE BOMBING HAS BEEN ONE OF REVULSION AND CONDEMNATION ON THE PART OF THE ENTIRE PRESS, MOST POLITICAL GROUPS REPORTEDLY INCLUDING EVEN OPPOSITION, AND ON PART OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. IF INTENTION OF PERPETRATORS OF BOMBING WAS TO SOW DISCORD AND CONFUSION, IT HAS IN FACT PROBABLY ACHIEVED OPPOSITE EFFECT, SINCE NATION APPEARS TO HAVE RALLIED IN SOLIDARITY FOR THE VICTIMS AND IN DEMANDING PROMPT JUSTICE FOR THE PERPETRATORS. GOVT HAS STRESS THAT INNOCENT VICTIMS OF BOMBING HAVE INCLUDED PERSONS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE AND SOCIAL CLASSES, BUT PARTICULARLY FROM MODEST SOCIAL STRATA. FOR EXAMPLE, AMONG DEAD WERE A MECHANIC, A RAILROAD WORKER, TELEPHONE OPERATOR, AND A STUDENT. DEAD ALSO REPRESENTED GEOGRAPHIC SPREAD AND, ASIDE FROM MADRILENOS, INCLUDED UNCLASSIFIED

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PERSONS FROM LA CORUNA, BURGOS, VALLADOLID, AND ZARAGOZA. RIVERO

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